GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:479
ANSWERED ON:28.02.2000
POLICY ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTION FOR NEW MILLENNIUM .
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have initiated any policy measures to meet the challenge and need of petroleum production and products for new millennium;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government would be able to achieve self-sufficiency in this sector;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)
(a) & (b): The following policy initiatives were taken by the Government in the hydrocarbon sector in recent past to meet the challenges of the future years which will encompass the first decade of the new millennium.
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-: 2 :-

(i) grant of greater financial and operational autonomy to Navratna companies namely Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited and Gas Authority o India Limited.

(ii) Encouraging the participation of private/joint venture companies to attract capital investment.

(iii) Announcement of New Exploiration Licensing Policy in order to boost exploration activities in the country.The policy provides fiscal and contractual concessions and provides level playing field both for private investors and national oil companies.

(iv) Encouraging the exploration and exploitation of alternate hydrocarbon resources like Coal Bed Methane and gas hydrates.

(v) Improvement in recovery factor from the major oil producing fields and extension of exploration activities to unexplored basins and deep water.
(c) to (e): Present indigenous oil production and demand scenario indicate that goal of self sufficiency may not be achieved in the near future as the rate of increase in demand is outstripping the rate of indigenous production.